

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 184477
ORIGIN AF-10

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY ROME IMMEDIATE

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ROME FOR MOOSE ONLY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN, US, ET, IT

SUBJECT: PRESS GUIDANCE FOR MOOSE PRESS CONFERENCE
OF JULY 21

1. FOLLOWING PRESS GUIDANCE IS FORWARDED PER YOUR REQUEST.

-- Q. WHAT FORM OF SETTLEMENT WOULD WE LIKE TO SEE IN
ERITREA?

-- A. ONLY A POLITICAL SETTLEMENT WHICH IS SUPPORTED
BOTH BY THE ERITREAN INSURGENTS AND BY THE PMGSE IN
ADDIS ABABA CAN END THE BLOODSHED IN ERITREA AND BRING
GENUINE PEACE TO THE AREA. WE THEREFORE FAVOR ANY
POLITICAL SETTLEMENT WHICH IS ACCEPTABLE TO THE ERITREANS
AND TO THE ETHIOPIAN GOVERNMENT IN ADDIS. THIS MEANS,
OF COURSE, THAT THERE MUST BE COMPROMISES ON BOTH SIDES
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IF A GENUINE SETTLEMENT IS TO BE ACHIEVED.

--Q. WHAT IS OUR VIEW OF THE 1952 UN FORMULA FOR ERITREA?

--A. THE 1952 UN RESOLUTION PROVIDED THAT ERITREA WAS
TO "CONSTITUTE AN AUTONOMOUS UNIT FEDERATED WITH ETHIOPIA."

THE ERITREAN GOVERNMENT WAS TO HAVE FULL "LEGISLATIVE, EXECUTIVE AND JUDICIAL POWERS IN THE FIELD OF DOMESTIC AFFAIRS." WE BELIEVE THAT THE UNGA RESOLUTION GRANTING ERITREA LOCAL AUTONOMY STILL PROVIDES A BASIS FOR POLITICAL SOLUTION. IT WOULD GIVE ERITREA A NATIONAL IDENTITY OR CHARACTER OF ITS OWN WITHOUT VIOLATING ETHIOPIAN TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY. WE BELIEVE, THEREFORE, THAT THE 1952 RESOLUTION MIGHT PROVIDE A BASIS FOR POLITICAL SETTLEMENT.

2. FOR EMBASSY: PLEASE ENSURE THAT MOOSE RECEIVES THIS PRESS GUIDANCE BEFORE HIS MORNING PRESS CONFERENCE JULY 21. VANCE

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